

Madam Speaker, teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections are serious problems that demand serious solutions. Of course we should want to delay the onset of sexual activity in our children—what parent of a teenager wouldn't want that? But we cannot let that desire blind us to the very real fact that teenagers, despite our best intentions, will and do have sex, and that our wanting them not to does not absolve us of our obligation to protect them and keep them safe.

This money does not exist merely on paper—it is real money which we are borrowing from countries whose interests are inimical to our own, countries that have accumulated sovereign wealth funds at alarming rates over the past 6 years. And we are leaving this legacy of fiscal wreckage to our children, and our children's children, mortgaging away their future at a rate of more than \$15,000 per second.

Since 2001, China's accumulation of foreign reserves, mostly U.S. dollars, have increased from \$46.6 billion to \$1.066 trillion—that is, every new dollar we borrow adds leverage to China—which has profoundly different strategic aims than we do.

The idea that this is a preferable alternative to a bill that would help 95 percent of the people who felt any impact from its passage is unconscionable. The idea that we should sacrifice the futures of our children and our grandchildren in order to have our cake and eat it too, to continue giving enormous tax preferences to the richest of the rich in this country is morally bankrupt and fiscally unsound.

Madam Speaker, income is income. Even if we accept that there should be a distinction between the taxation of labor and capital income, income received as payment for the service of investing other people's money is not capital income under even the loosest of possible understandings. The idea that a hedge fund manager earning \$500 million a year should be taxed at a lower rate than his secretary, who earns \$40,000 a year is preposterous in both moral and economic terms and should embarrass us all. I know it embarrasses me, and that it embarrasses my constituents.

This bill is about making a choice between what is right and what is easy. I applaud Chairman RANGEL for standing firm in the face of overwhelming pressure to do the easy thing, for drawing a line in the sand and demanding that we pass a bill which is true to our principles. We were not elected to make easy choices—we were elected to do right by our constituents, their children, and their children's children. I am proud to support this bill today, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

HONORING WILLIE JAMES WHISENHUNT, RPH, AS THE 2007 TRIBUTE TO COMMUNITY HEALTH CHAMPIONS HONOREE BY THE WEST FRESNO HEALTHCARE COALITION

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 9, 2007*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Willie James Whisenhunt, RPH

for being named a 2007 honoree at the Tribute to Health Champions reception by the West Fresno Healthcare Coalition. A mere three days after arriving in our fair city, Mr. Whisenhunt opened the Westside Pharmacy. More than 30 years later his career and contributions to the area are impressive and most deserving of this honor.

Mr. Whisenhunt was born in Vredenburg, AL, the eldest of three children. His father, a carpenter, died when Mr. Whisenhunt was 10, and he was raised by his grandparents, uncle and aunt. His family taught him the value of hard work, commitment, and unconditional love. He received his high school diploma from Escambia County Training School, later receiving his bachelor's of science in pharmaceuticals from Xavier University of Louisiana.

Community service has always been a focus in Mr. Whisenhunt's life, particularly his commitment to the youth of west Fresno. He has sponsored various athletic teams at Edison High School, including both the women's and men's baseball teams. He has helped southwest Fresno students by aiding speech teams and academic decathlons. He has been a mentor to our youth, promoting higher education in the community, encouraging students to pursue careers in science and funding trips to historically black colleges and our Nation's Capital. Outside the boundaries of west Fresno, he has served in various leadership positions, holding the distinction of being the only African American president of the Fresno-Madera Pharmacists Association.

Furthermore, Mr. Whisenhunt has been a lifelong supporter to the United Negro College Fund, the Southern Poverty Law Center, and the Silesian Society of Don Bosco. In 2006, he received the Health Care Professional of the Year Small Business Award from the Fresno Black Expo.

Willie James Whisenhunt is a great man and a true example of the American Dream. It is with great pride that I congratulate him for receiving this distinguished award and for all that he does on behalf of west Fresno.

TRIBUTE TO JACKSON HOLCOMB

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 9, 2007*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate a student from Gilbert Middle School in Ames, IA, for a recent academic accomplishment.

Jackson Holcomb received a distinguished award at the Belin-Blank Recognition Ceremony on October 6, 2007, at the University of Iowa. Jackson's award is in honor of his top one percent score on the Belin-Blank Exceptional Student Talent Search EXPLORE test. This test measures academic development in English, mathematics, reading, and science reasoning.

Jackson's parents, Todd and Jane Holcomb, and his teachers are also to be commended and congratulated for this great accomplishment. They have instilled the importance and value of education in Jackson that has helped him to excel in school and beyond.

I commend Jackson Holcomb for his hard work in the classroom. I consider it an honor

to represent Jackson and his family in Congress, and I wish him continued success in his academic studies.

TRIBUTE TO TOM COHEN

**HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 9, 2007*

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of an outstanding American, Mr. Tom Cohen, who was recognized October 30, 2007, for his great humanitarian efforts and tremendous support of the worthwhile work of Orphans International.

Mr. Cohen's work with Orphans International began after his family was struck with terrible tragedy. In 2004, he lost his beloved son-in-law, Cresenta Fernando, Ph.D., in the December tsunami, which devastated his native country of Sri Lanka. Out of this awful loss, Tom saw an opportunity to keep Cresenta's memory alive by helping to improve the lives of disadvantaged children throughout Sri Lanka.

Mr. Cohen began working with Jim Luce, the founder and executive director of the non-profit organization Orphans International, which had established projects that were helping to meet the needs of children in other parts of the world. Together, they created a branch of the organization that would serve the most vulnerable children of Sri Lanka in honor of Cresenta.

Orphans International Sri Lanka, or OI Sri Lanka, is a part of Orphans International Worldwide's network. This organization works to meet the physical, emotional, educational, and social needs of children who are victims of natural disasters, armed conflicts, and other crises that have taken away their parents, homes, and their chances for a better life.

Mr. Cohen is not only a compassionate philanthropist, but also an accomplished professional. As the head of compliance at Bear Stearns, he has helped contribute to that company's great success.

Mr. Cohen's work for Orphans International has been a family effort. Tom's wife Donna Cohen has worked tirelessly with him to raise funds for this worthwhile goal, and to support their daughter Ariele Cohen in her role as the president of the OI Sri Lanka Board of Directors and a member of the OI America Advisory Board.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to working with and recognizing the efforts of dedicated humanitarians like Tom Cohen. I am proud to represent such a fine man in Congress.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, everyone involved in Orphans International, Tom's family and friends, and me in recognizing Tom Cohen's outstanding service to the global community.